



Commonwealth of Massachusetts
Executive Office of Energy & Environmental Affairs

Department of Environmental Protection

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Charles D. Baker
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Kathleen A. Theoharides
Secretary

Martin Suuberg
Commissioner

May 24, 2021

In the Matter of
Town of Falmouth

OADR Docket No. 2020-037
Groundwater Discharge Permit No. 738-2
Falmouth, MA

FINAL DECISION

Martin Suuberg, the Commissioner of the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection (“MassDEP” or “the Department”) has designated me as the Final Decision Maker in this appeal.

The Buzzards Bay Coalition, Inc. (“BBC”) challenged a Groundwater Discharge Permit (“GWD Permit”) that the Southeast Regional Office of the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection (“MassDEP” or “the Department”) issued to the Town of Falmouth on October 14, 2020. The GWD Permit authorizes Falmouth to discharge into the ground a treated effluent from the New Silver Beach wastewater treatment facility located at 40 William Street in Falmouth. MassDEP issued the Permit pursuant to the authority of M.G.L. c. 21, Sections 26-63, 314 CMR 2.00 and 314 CMR 5.00. BBC alleged that the GWD Permit fails to include limits which are adequate to assure the attainment and maintenance of Massachusetts Surface Water Quality Standards, BBC alleged that the permit limits exceed the nitrogen threshold established

by the Total Maximum Daily Load (“TMDL”) for Wild Harbor and violate state law and regulations.

On May 20, 2021, the BBC, the Town of Falmouth and MassDEP jointly filed a stipulation of dismissal and agreed to dismiss the appeal with prejudice. The parties agree that the GWD Permit, as issued by MassDEP, shall become final. The parties’ stipulation of dismissal of the appeal constitutes a waiver by the parties to any further administrative review before the Department as well as appeal to court of the GWD Permit that was at issue in this appeal. Accordingly, the Department issues this Final Decision dismissing the appeal.



Salvatore M. Giorlandino
Chief Presiding Officer

SERVICE LIST

In The Matter Of:

Town of Falmouth

Docket Nos. 2021-004 & 2021-005

Permit No. 168-6
Falmouth, MA

Representative

Party

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PETITIONER (2021-005)
Buzzards Bay Coalition, Inc. &
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